

Spreadsheet

CIPFA.ORG | NEWS FOR MEMBERS AND STUDENTS

AUGUST 2014



CIPFA Annual Conference 2014

Mike Owen takes the helm as President

and opens our 'best conference yet'

New CIPFA President Mike Owen addresses the conference

in this issue

[Counter Fraud Centre launched](#)

[CIPFA calculates future balance sheet for Scotland](#)

[New commission to reform local government finance](#)

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CIPFA

Message from the President

Taking up the reins as CIPFA's 150th president is an unbelievable honour and privilege and one I set my heart on achieving many years ago when, as a newly qualified member, I listened to the then President Keith Bridge as he spoke to a group of north west and north Wales members. Little did I know that I'd actually make it, and now that I have, I promise that I'll do my absolute best to help CIPFA move forward over the coming year.

And what an exciting year we have ahead of us. After our inspiring and game-changing conference, we can now start to look forward to the general election and the Scottish referendum in September - we know only too well the challenges facing the country as we go to the polls.

Whatever the outcome, and whichever government we elect, these challenges will include the pressures of rising demand for public services; demographic changes; the continuing need for fiscal austerity; the inefficiencies of centrally controlled funding; the drain in people's trust in public bodies; and the way that our siloed approach to government - from Whitehall downwards - constantly frustrates attempts to collaborate between services and focus them around the needs of communities and users.

CIPFA and its members have a vital role to play in addressing these challenges and I am determined that our voice will be heard. Over the next ten months, CIPFA will be working hard to influence the parties contesting the election to encourage them to achieve fiscal sustainability, budget for the medium to long term, invest strategically in growth and early interventions and to address how government is structured to deliver genuinely integrated services.

We will also be working to ensure that the regional interests in England have the voice, democratic tools and resources to shape their own futures just as we have seen the devolved governments of Scotland and Wales do with increasing confidence.

CIPFA will also be pressing the case for addressing the yawning governance gap we are witnessing as a result of increasingly atomised public services. Be it in academies or clinical commissioning groups, time and time again we have seen failure in financial management and governance when these newly reformed structures should be increasing public confidence not eroding it.

In September, we shall be launching our manifesto and taking our proposals to policy makers and to the political parties. I look forward to meeting you

too as I tour the country to discuss how we can all work together to achieve a more equitable, sustainable future. CIPFA is on the move so please join me!

See you soon...oh and feel free to follow me on Twitter [@CIPFA_Pres!](#)



**Mike Owen,
President**



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We welcome your feedback on Spreadsheet. Please send your comments and suggestions for future articles to Kathryn.Chellew@cipfa.org

Keeping up with CIPFA

You can now join us on LinkedIn, follow CIPFA on Twitter at twitter.com/cipfa, or 'like' us on Facebook. Links are provided on the CIPFA website.



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Technical and policy round-up

Pickles announces £16m for councils to fight fraud at CIPFA conference

Local Government Secretary Eric Pickles announced a £16m fund to help councils tackle fraud at the CIPFA conference on 2 July. He said the money would support initiatives aimed at cutting abuses such as council tax fraud, blue badge misuse and thefts of grants.

Local authorities need to bid for the new fund by 5 September, and these

will be judged on the potential financial savings and benefits offered, as well as on their innovation.

‘Fraud costs hardworking taxpayers £2bn per year,’ he said. ‘We are supporting councils to go further in catching fraud felons, and today I am proud to commit £16m over two years to ridding this scourge.’

Responding to the announcement, CIPFA chief executive Rob Whiteman said: ‘This funding is hugely welcome, it will put resources into protecting taxpayer’s money at the frontline and every pound saved increases the amount that can be spent serving communities across the country.’

CIPFA calculates future balance sheet for Scotland

CIPFA Scotland has published a report which addresses tough questions around the future financing of an independent Scotland.

The report *The Scottish Referendum: Scotland’s future* in the balance looks at what a balance sheet for the current devolved Scottish public sector might look like and examines Scotland’s current financial position and future sustainability.

CIPFA believes that the Scottish public deserves more transparent and understandable data on Scotland’s finances before voting on whether to remain part of the UK.

Speaking on the report Don Peebles, Head of CIPFA Scotland said:

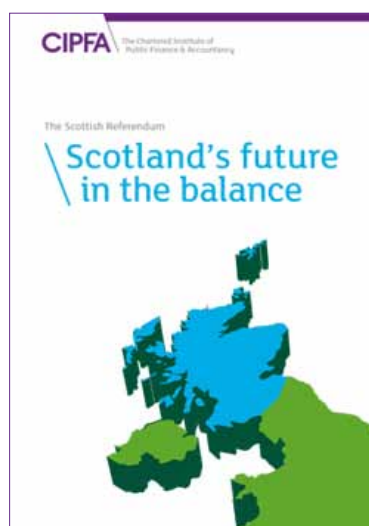
‘CIPFA thinks that the decision the Scottish people are being asked to take is vitally important and needs to be supported by financial information that is readily understandable.’

It estimates that the devolved Scottish public sector has assets of £84bn and liabilities of £100bn. Any post-independence negotiation of public sector assets and liabilities would significantly impact on this balance sheet.

The report can be downloaded from the [CIPFA website](#).

‘CIPFA thinks that the decision the Scottish people are being asked to take is vitally important and needs to be supported by financial information that is readily understandable.’

Don Peebles, Head of CIPFA Scotland



Counter Fraud Centre launched

CIPFA has launched the [Counter Fraud Centre](#) (CCFC), the UK’s national centre of excellence on counter fraud. The Centre opened on 17 July 2014, and is headed by Rachael Tiffen, former Deputy Director of the National Fraud Authority.

Speaking at the launch, Rachael said: ‘The work of the centre will save money for the taxpayer while protecting the reputation of public services by developing the critical know-how and wherewithal needed to fight fraud on the front line.’

The CCFC will develop new tools and services for the public sector on counter fraud and anti-corruption and lead the national counter fraud strategy for local government, ‘Fighting Fraud Locally’.

The Centre will take responsibility for the Audit Commission’s counter fraud tools, providing research, training and codes of practice for professionals tasked with reducing the estimated £20.6 billion of public sector fraud and error in the UK. The Centre will provide services both in the UK and internationally.

Independent local government finance commission launched

An independent commission to recommend reforms in local government finance has been launched by CIPFA and the Local Government Association (LGA).

The [Independent Commission on Local Government Finance \(ICLGF\)](#) will look at better ways to fund local services and promote economic growth in England and is chaired by Darra Singh, partner in the Government and Public Sector team at EY (formerly Ernst & Young).

He said: 'We know that public spending will continue to fall, there is growing demand for social care and promoting growth is vital. Previous commissions have looked at reforms to local government finance, but the challenges are now much more critical which means the work of the Commission could not be more timely.'

The Commission is expected to publish interim findings in the Autumn ahead of a final report in early 2015.



ICLGF chair Darra Singh, speaking at CIPFA's annual conference

Royal Mail sale 'a wealth transfer to foreign governments'

An article published in CIPFA's academic journal *Public Money and Management* (PM&M) by Professor David Parker, the government's official historian of privatisation, made the national news, arguing that the sale of Royal Mail was in effect a wealth transfer from the British taxpayer to foreign governments.

In the article, Professor Parker compared the privatisation of Royal Mail to others in the 1980s and 1990s and concluded that the sale was of poorer value than any in that period. The sale resulted in £2.5 billion less than taxpayers might have received in earlier decades.

He wrote: 'As large volumes of the shares were bought by foreign investors including sovereign wealth funds, there was a wealth transfer overseas - in the case of sovereign wealth funds, in effect to foreign governments.'

'With the shares seriously under-priced and the exchequer bearing the pension deficit, it is difficult to judge this sale as obviously good value for taxpayers.'

The [article in PM&M](#) can be downloaded for free online.

New framework for good governance in the public sector

The International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and CIPFA have launched the *International Framework: Good Governance in the Public Sector* to encourage more effective public sector governance.

Governance in public entities has become a pressing issue due to the financial and sovereign debt crises and a stream of governance failures, including nepotism, inefficiency, corruption, and poor financial management.

The Framework encourages better-governed and managed public sector entities by improving how they set and achieve their intended outcomes.

Speaking on the Framework, Chair of CIPFA International Ian Ball said:

'Public sector governance must focus explicitly on sustainable economic, social, and environmental outcomes, and this publication is unprecedented in highlighting the central role that outcomes and the public interest should

play in the processes and structures of public sector governance.'

Copies of [the framework](#) can be downloaded online.



CIPFA launched the Governance Mark of Excellence at the annual conference to accredit public sector organisations which demonstrate good governance, using the principles of the new framework.

Streamlining and simplification of local authority financial statements

Last year CIPFA/LASAAC issued a consultation on the streamlining and simplification of local authority financial statements. The messages the Board received were that the financial statements:

- were overburdened with too much detail
- did not clearly convey traditional measures of local authority performance, and
- did not have effective segmental reporting arrangements.

Responding to those messages, CIPFA has issued an update to the [How to Tell the Story](#) publication available on the CIPFA/LASAAC pages of the Website.

We will also issue a second stage consultation which will take a more in-depth review on how performance is reported.

It is also the time of year when CIPFA/LASAAC issues its annual consultation on the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting where one of the key changes to the 2015/2016 Code is the adoption of the *Fair Value Measurement* Standard.

Both these consultations are available on the [consultation pages](#) of the CIPFA website.

CIPFA launches first accredited certificate in asset management planning

Designed specifically for the public sector by CIPFA Property, our accredited certificate in asset management planning is equivalent to NQF Level 3 and will initially be rolled out in Northern Ireland.

All public bodies need to make the most effective use of their physical estates and it is vital that staff managing assets are equipped with the right skills to do their jobs.

Our practical training course is aimed at all levels of staff working in property management and covers key topics including:

- principles of strategic asset management and its role in a public sector organisation
- elements that impact on the life expectancy of assets in a property portfolio
- performance management to improve your organisation's property asset management
- strategies for different asset types including the concept of a corporate landlord approach
- business cases and option appraisal, and the principles of informed decision making
- the role of the asset manager, practical application and current developments.

To find out more about the certificate please email property@cipfa.org

Housing news and views

Dr Louise Dunne, Lead Housing Advisor at CIPFA, has published these articles on our website, which will be of interest to members working in social housing.

CIPFA is also running a [national housing conference](#) on Friday 26 September where leading experts will explore the changing trends in the housing market and what this means for social housing.

You can join in the discussion on Twitter at [#cipfahousing14](#).

Social housing IS big business

It is almost impossible to grasp the implications of the growing commercialisation in the housing sector due to the sheer complexity and diversity of landlord organisations – in terms of governance, accounting rules, size, region, asset base, market demand & supply, and even regulation...

[Read the article in full.](#)

Muscular movement? Measuring the performance of the HRA since settlement

Now in their second year, many HRA Landlords must surely be re-visiting many of the assumptions that were made two years ago – and upon which, the settlement to self-financing was predicated. Much has changed in the past 24 months to affect predicted performance and it is important that landlords have the tools to effectively measure the impact of those changes...

[Read more.](#)

Could you employ a CIPFA finance apprentice?

We are looking for employers to join our one year [apprenticeship scheme](#) which recruits and trains ambitious young individuals in public finance careers as an alternative to university.

The benefits for employers include:

- Cost effective – you pay a one-off fee (from £20,000 to just under £24,000 depending on the age of your apprentice) which covers all employment, training and additional costs.
- Hassle free - recruitment and

interview service is handled by CIPFA.

- HR and payroll administration dealt with by CIPFA.
- You will have an apprentice with you, learning on the job four-days a week, while studying the AAT Level 4 qualification one day a week.

Any public service organisation across London, Birmingham, Manchester and surrounding commutable regions can participate. To find out more, email: apprenticeships@cipfa.org or call T: 020 7543 5757.

Discretionary or not discretionary - that is the question

A recent Valuation Tribunal case has stirred up debate among local authorities because it suggests that their discretionary power to grant relief through 13A can be challenged.

By overturning the LA's decision not to grant 13A on a council tax support case, the Valuation Tribunal decision has raised interesting questions over who should be making those discretionary decisions and what factors should influence them. The papers cover 16 points to assist billing authorities and tribunal members to deal with these appeals. It is useful for authorities to read these and consider their

application in the future. They comment on the procedural, operational and financial approach to discretionary awards.

Many authorities have little or no budget for discretion, but were prepared to take this financial position as previously it had been assumed that the decision to award any payment would come under local control. This decision takes local authorities into previously uncharted territory around discretion and needs to be considered.

For more information, E: Joanne.Pitt@cipfa.org

Board Intelligence for Public Services

CIPFA has introduced the first board reporting app for the public services, in partnership with Board Intelligence. Information is vital in the boardroom and Board Intelligence for Public Services enables all public sector bodies to develop effective and efficient board reports and packs.

- **Save time and money:** go paperless and use the simple three-click solution to compile and distribute your board pack in minutes.
- **See what matters:** unlock the potential of your board with best practice reporting guidance.
- **Anytime, anyplace:** access your complete library of board packs via the secure board portal wherever you are in the world.

Consultation on the 2015/2016 service reporting code of practice

The Local Authority Accounting Panel is publicly consulting until 12 September 2014 on an exposure draft of the 2015/2016 *Service reporting code of practice for local authorities (SeRCOP)* which will apply to accounting periods starting as of 1 April 2015.

The proposed changes to the service expenditure analysis (SEA) for England and Wales are required to reflect organisational and operational changes to LA services.

The main SEA changes proposed are:

- adult social care (England) – further additional financial data for each primary support reason relating to older people (65+) to include 65-74, 75-84 and 85+
- national parks - mandatory line 'forward planning and communities' to be split into 'strategic planning' and 'sustainable communities'
- highways and transportation - a new discretionary line for bus lane enforcement

In the non-SEA section of SeRCOP, the definition of total cost introduces proposed changes to reflect the five new or amended Group Accounts standards introduced by the 2014/2015 Code.

The [consultation](#) is available online.

Board efficiency is part of CIPFA's drive to improve governance standards, and this new app, together with our new Governance Mark of Excellence, broadens the support we can deliver in this field.

To find out more about how to improve your board reporting, please visit www.boardintelligence.co.uk/publicservices

Governance and institute matters

Reducing the Institute's pensions deficit

There has recently been some coverage in the media of the Institute's pensions deficit. In light of these reports CIPFA would like to reiterate that the Institute does have a strategy to deal with our pension scheme's deficit. This was outlined in the 2013 Annual Report and Accounts and has been signed off by CIPFA council.

The strategy recognises that the pension fund deficit poses a long-term issue for CIPFA, but that it does not affect cash flows as CIPFA makes employer contributions to the pension fund on the

basis of advice from the scheme actuary as part of their report on the triennial valuation. The employer contribution rates will increase over the three-year valuation period from April 2014 by 3%, phased in over that period to fund the deficit over 14 years, with the cost implications built into our business plans going forward. CIPFA Council will also continue to closely monitor any further upward pressure on the contribution rate.

The reorganisation of our London properties is expected to result in a net

surplus of between £3m to £4m in 2015 dependant on the property market when the Borough High Street premises is sold, a proportion of which could be used to reduce the pension deficit.

When the surplus is realised Council will further review the proportion of the net proceeds to be used to reduce the pension deficit, held in reserves or invested in growing the business. Council will exercise prudence in deciding this with the benefit of specialist advice.

Appointment of Martin Sinclair and Andy Burns

Martin Sinclair, Assistant Auditor General at the NAO has been appointed honorary treasurer and Andy Burns, Director of Finance at Staffordshire County Council is Chair of Group Board for 2014/2015.

At CIPFA's AGM in July Ian Perkin resigned as Honorary Treasurer following a decision taken by the Nominations Committee, with the agreement of full Council, to separate the role of Group Board chair and honorary treasurer. This was intended to reflect the Board's responsibility for all major CIPFA strategies and development, not just finance.

Ian's concerns about the change are not shared by honorary officers, the independent chair of the Nominations Committee nor the Council. No other body like CIPFA links these roles, and it is not a position supported by the International Federation of Accountants' guidance on professional accountancy organisation governance or any other guidance on good governance.

The President, Mike Owen, expressed his disappointment at Ian's resignation and thanked him for his contribution as honorary treasurer.

CIPFA Council needs you!

Have you ever thought of standing for election to CIPFA Council and helping to guide the Institute's strategy? Most Council members get a great deal of pleasure from their service.

Sir Tony Redmond, CIPFA President in 2012/2013, found his time on the Council both enjoyable and valuable:

'My good fortune in being active in the Institute has enabled me to gather invaluable intelligence on what makes a good accountant, manager and leader. Helping to shape the development of the Institute has been a privilege and experiencing the knowledge, wisdom and camaraderie of fellow professionals has been a critical factor in the success I have achieved.

'Working for and with CIPFA is no 'sacrifice' – it is an absolute pleasure!'

The next elections take place early in 2015: find out more about the process from the [Institute's website](#).

Help develop local authority accounting

The CIPFA/LASAAC Board currently has two vacancies for English local authority practitioners. Ideally one of these members should be from a district council.

With responsibility for the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the UK, CIPFA/LASAAC plays a key role in local authority accounting. Members of the Board have the opportunity to shape the development of the Code.

The board usually meets three times a year, alternating between London and Edinburgh. The [Terms of Reference for the Board](#) are available here.

As well as attending meetings, members are expected to review papers including drafts of sections of the Code circulated between meetings.

Board members may be asked to support events in their area designed to promote the work of CIPFA/LASAAC.

If you are interested, please email the CIPFA/LASAAC Secretary sarah.sheen@cipfa.org by 1 October 2014.

Enhancing the Professional Qualification

Following extensive consultation with employers and stakeholders, CIPFA Council has endorsed a new direction for the PQ syllabus for students commencing their studies in 2015, to meet the needs of a changing workplace and increase the availability of our training.

The revised qualification will:

- better reflect the needs of UK public finance practitioners for a wider range of commercial skills
- remain both a financial management and an audit qualification, with greater portability between the public and private sectors.
- equip students to meet the requirements of the new Local Audit and Accountability Act through local audit registered qualifying body status.
- incorporate entry routes for holders of other qualifications to provide easier routes to CIPFA membership for experienced professionals.

We are also reviewing the workplace experience scheme, the Practical Experience Portfolio (PEP), to help exam-qualified students complete their portfolio and become members by placing greater emphasis on the role of the employer. Find out more about the [PQ changes](#) online.

Action under CIPFA's Disciplinary Scheme

The Institute's independent regulatory committees have taken the following actions in relation to Institute members/former members:

Mr Andrew Tremaine

After a hearing held on 9-12 December 2013, the Disciplinary Committee determined to suspend former CIPFA Member Mr Tremaine for a period of 12 months in respect of matters relating to treasury management at Restormel Borough Council. Suspension of a former member means that any application received from that former member for re-admittance to membership during the time period specified shall be rejected. Full details of the decision can be seen on [CIPFA's website](#).

Ms Tracie Evans

After a hearing held on 31 March and 30 April 2014, the Disciplinary Committee determined to issue Member Ms Tracie Evans with a severe reprimand in respect of her signing her co-director's name on accounts (which she lodged with Companies House) without that co-director's knowledge or consent.

Fuller details of the matter can be seen on [CIPFA's website](#).

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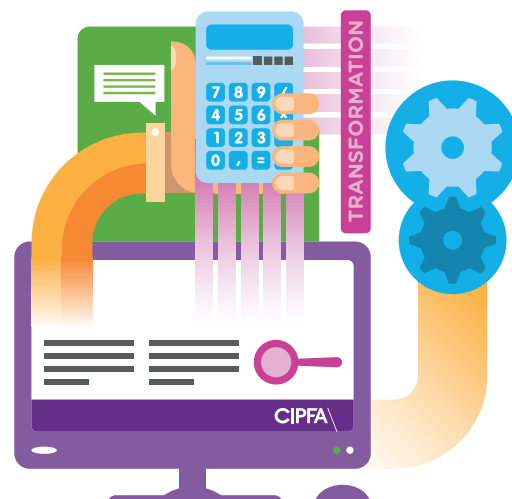
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Share your finance skills overseas

Accounting for International Development (AfID) is looking for CIPFA members who might be willing to share their skills and experience as overseas volunteers. AfID's volunteer accountants – many of whom are CIPFA qualified – have now provided over 100,000 hours of support to 346 charities and grassroots community organisations in 36 countries. Key contributions such as internal audits, budget creation and monitoring, financial reporting and system implementations help to increase the financial sustainability of these organisations and allow for the continued financial support from their donors.

In the past many public-sector finance professionals have left their roles – either on a temporary, volunteer basis or a permanent, salaried basis – to move into the international development sector.

With more charities requesting the support of AfID volunteers each week, there is still an enormous need for financial support from even more CIPFA accountants. To find out more, visit www.afid.org.uk.

For other volunteering opportunities with CIPFA, visit <http://www.cipfa.org/about-cipfa/volunteers>.



An AfID volunteer mentors local staff at Life and Hope Association, Cambodia

Become a school governor and enhance your finance skills

National charity SGOSS - Governors for Schools, are working with CIPFA to recruit more school governors with financial skills.

Volunteering as a school governor allows you to gain new strategic and executive skills whilst using and developing your finance skills to make a tangible difference at a school convenient to you.

School governance focuses on the 'big picture' and the school's direction, offering ample opportunity to compare and contrast your own professional experience. You gain exposure to understanding key issues and challenges that you may not have encountered before.

You are immersed in the school's culture and way of working, learning new insights - good and bad from the headteacher, other governors and the school's senior leadership team.

If you want to make a substantial and tangible contribution to your local community, then contact SGOSS today! More information can be found at www.sgoss.org.uk or contact us directly on 020 7354 9805 or info@sgoss.org.uk.

Tom Sowerby award

Paul Simpson has won the Tom Sowerby award which recognises outstanding service to student education for his commitment to CIPFA students.

Paul led the establishment of CIPFA's successful co-operative training scheme in Nottinghamshire.

The award was presented by Mike Owen, CIPFA's President, during CIPFA's Annual Conference 2014, who said:

'Paul has consistently been a strong supporter of CIPFA as an Institute and especially of CIPFA trainees. We feel Paul deserves this award for his commitment to the continuous improvement of CIPFA's offer to students, and his leadership in the field of CIPFA training is something to be celebrated'

The award was established by Tom Sowerby, president of CIPFA from 1973 to 1974. More information from: www.cipfa.org/about-cipfa/awards



Sir Harry Page Merit Award winner

Rob Lilley, Head of Business Development at Trafford Community Leisure Trust, has won the Sir Harry Page Merit Award for outstanding technical innovation.

Mr Lilley won the award for his work on social return on investment. His report was commissioned to evaluate and measure the economic and social benefits generated by the work of the Leisure Trust for the people of Trafford. The judges were greatly impressed by the importance of the subject and the results it has shown.

Announcing the award at the CIPFA annual conference, CIPFA's President, Mike Owen, said:

'I hope the award will encourage all who use public funds to redouble their efforts to account clearly to the taxpayer about how they create real value.'

The award was established by former CIPFA President Sir Harry Page in 1968 for outstanding work in public service accounting and financial management.



Rob Lilley, collects his award at the President's dinner

Members help needed to build corporate partnerships

As a new academic year looms, we would welcome support from our members to work more closely with employers and prospective students to promote the uptake of our Professional Qualification.

Faisal Khan, Head of Client Engagement at CIPFA, is responsible for developing and maintaining relationships with employers and successful delivery of our university engagement plan.

He said: 'Over the coming weeks, we would like to contact you individually to see how we can support any existing business development work or use current contacts to establish new relationships. We are a small team and we need your help and guidance to foster strong partnerships, local to you, with the aim of growing the CIPFA membership.'

You could get involved in a number of ways, by:

- generating a business lead
- attending a university careers fair
- representing CIPFA at an employer meeting or regional finance director group.

You would be given training and a CIPFA Volunteer pack with all the relevant information. To find out more, please contact faisal.khan@cipfa.org by 11 August.

New improved services for members

CIPFA announced our new and improved members' benefits at the annual conference. We are passionate about enabling you to perform in your role to the highest standards, that's why membership is changing for the better.

You told us you wanted more career development and support, improved qualifications, better access to your branch network and greater diversity in the range of exclusive discounts that we negotiate on your behalf. We've listened and have been working hard to improve your membership experience; as the lifeblood and driving force of the Institute we are committed to ensuring that you get the most out of your membership.

Find out more by logging into '[My CIPFA](#)' on our website.



CIPFA Practising Certificate – who needs one?

Members who provide accountancy services to someone who is not their employer need one, as do members who work as interim managers who bill their client.

For full details on who needs to hold a Practising Certificate and what type of work is defined as 'accountancy services' see the [Council Statement on Public Practice](#).

Under the HMRC Money Laundering Regulations 2007 accountants doing

this type of work must be supervised and CIPFA's scheme meets this obligation.

Further [details of the scheme](#) and how to apply are available on our website.

International

Rapid expansion in international student numbers

Following a period of rapid global growth, the Institute now has over 1,000 international students.

The increase in the number of students studying for the CIPFA International Public Finance Management qualification is a result of CIPFA expanding its global reach in response to increased demand for training in public financial management around the world.

Significant contributions to growth include CIPFA's new training partnerships with the United Nations Development Programme and bilateral training agreements in Bangladesh, Lesotho and Nigeria to deliver CIPFA's suite of International Public Financial Management courses. This expansion of activity has also been driven by CIPFA being the first accountancy body in the world to offer a qualification based on International Public Sector Accounting

Standards (IPSAS) to improve government transparency and accountability, allowing for greater comparability between different countries and public sector bodies.

Commenting on the figures Adrian Pulham, CIPFA's Education and Training Director, said: 'This growth in student numbers demonstrates that CIPFA offers a truly global qualification, relevant to the needs of government and the public services worldwide.'

UN Agencies to sit CIPFA exams

This innovative programme continues to go from strength to strength. In addition to the agencies reported in the June edition of Spreadsheet – UNFPA, UNICEF, UN-Women and UNHCR, we now anticipate enrolling students from UNESCO for exams in December 2014. And our first agency, UNDP, is to provide another 100 students for that same exam diet.

IPSAS training

We have recently concluded a contract with the World Bank to translate our Cert IPSAS course into Spanish. Up until now it was available only in English, and this novel initiative follows hard on the heels of a very successful delivery of the English language course to staff at the World Bank.

Audit of procurement training in Pakistan

Following the success of CIPFA's first audit of procurement course which we ran in Pakistan in 2013, we have been invited to run it again in 2014. There appears to be significant demand for this course, so we are researching how we might adapt the course from its present face-to-face format to make it deliverable at pace and scale in a number of other countries around the world.

CIPFA accredited training partner scheme grows

One of the ways by which we intend to increase our membership is by appointing accredited training partners (ATPs) to train CIPFA students in countries outside the UK. This month has seen a visit to Moscow, to complete the discussions with PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PwC) and the Academy of National Economy that will allow us to formally accredit PwC as our latest ATP. This is a new departure for us because the materials will be translated by PwC into Russian.

We are nearing the end of a year-long detailed negotiation process in Hong Kong, where the Hong Kong Council for Vocational and Educational Qualifications has now concluded its evaluation of the course to be run by our ATP, the Hong Kong Institute of Public Administration.

In the last few months there has been a noticeable increase in enquiries from Arab countries interested in setting up a partnership with CIPFA.

Certification training in Middle East and Horn of Africa

The government agency responsible for vocational and educational training in the United Arab Emirates is interested in making our International Public Financial Management (IPFM) qualifications available to Emirati students.

They want CIPFA to provide all the tuition initially until they build their own capacity to do this in the medium to longer term. Plans are now being made to visit to Abu Dhabi later this year to meet counterparts face-to-face and explore in more detail how the project might work.

CIPFA is working in partnership with WYG International, a global development consultancy, to make its IPFM qualifications available in Somalia. Given the country's instability, CIPFA's input will be provided from the UK and from a neighbouring country, to which Somali counterparts will travel. We will be training trainers from four universities, each of whom expects to enrol 45 students on courses initially. The first exams are being scheduled for December 2014: CETC will train the trainers to meet that deadline. This first phase of work, procured by negotiation with funding from the World Bank, will last for 21 months. Further phases are expected to be scheduled in due course.

Members News

Welcome to new members

A warm welcome goes out to the people listed below who became CIPFA qualified members since the last edition of Spreadsheet.

May we wish you a long and prosperous career. Don't forget that as a **CIPFA Member** you can use the designation **CPFA** and term yourself a Chartered Public Finance Accountant.

Simon Phillips
Newark and Sherwood Homes

Jyotika Dabasia
London Borough of Brent

Ross Beard
Deloitte LLP

Guangwu Duong
KPMG

Julie Michelle Robinson
Health and Social Care
Information Centre

Philip Ian Jeffrey
Veritau Limited

Freddie John Williams
KPMG LLP

Belinda Tsang
Financial Services

Allan Christopher Dixon
Department for Education

Victoria Forrester
Warwickshire County Council

Parmjit Kaur Sidhu
North Hertfordshire District Council

Timothy Troy
London Borough of Merton

Geoffrey Robert Bagnall
North East Derbyshire District Council

Philippa Rae Brown
Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service

Cerys Louise Ledger
London Borough of Merton

Peter John Mallon
Northern Ireland Audit Office

Vanessa Treasure
United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust

Aivaras Statkevicius
London Borough of Ealing

Nicholas James Ward
G4S Policing Support Services & Health

Rebecca Sarah Keene
Broxbourne Borough Council

Vanisha Patel
Department for Transport

Sheila Petrie
Angus Council

Jane Harriet Radford
London Borough of Newham

Harry Seran
Audit Scotland

Jon Whitehouse
Hertfordshire County Council

Honours for CIPFA members

Congratulations to our CIPFA members who were honoured at the Birthday Honours in June.

Former CIPFA president Chris Bilsland, the former chamberlain of the City of London, received an OBE for services to local government finance. An MBE went to CIPFA member Phillip Sheldon, force strategic finance manager at Derbyshire Constabulary, for services to police finance.

In memoriam

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of these former CIPFA members who have sadly passed away.

Herbert Leslie Naylor

Former City Treasurer at Lincoln CBC

William Smith

Former Borough Treasurer at Morecambe and Heysham BC

Robert Warren

Former Assistant County Treasurer at South Glamorgan CC

Jack Lawford

Former treasurer at Whaley Bridge UDC

John Cook By Peter Lowe, Bury Council

John Cook, the former Borough Treasurer of Bury Council, passed away peacefully with his devoted family by his side on 25 June 2014, aged 67.

John spent most of his working life at Bury, rising through the ranks to become Borough Treasurer until he took early retirement in April 1998. He undertook many national research assignments on social services finance for the old Association of Metropolitan Authorities and was a renowned guru on housing finance.

JFC, as he was affectionately called by staff, had a strong professional and moral compass that put people on the path of getting the basics right while at the same time exploring and discovering new and innovative ways of improving what we do and how we do it.

He had a great knack of spotting talent and nurturing staff so that many went on to be chief executives and chief finance officers at other organisations. One JFC-appointed trainee became a CIPFA P3 prize-winner, while the current CIPFA President was appointed to the Bury Finance team in 1986.

CIPFA Rewards for members

CIPFA Rewards is a portfolio containing money-saving discounts. This month's highlights include:

NUS Extra

As a CIPFA student member, you can enjoy over **170** of your favourite High Street and online brands with a discounted NUS Extra card for just **£10 for 13 months**, which is a **20% discount** on the usual price plus you get an extra month for free*.

Apple – Great savings on Apple products

All CIPFA members can now make great savings on a wide range of Apple products including 2% off Selected iPad & iPad mini, 5% off Apple TV, 6% off iPod, MacBook Air, iMac, Mac mini & Apple Branded Accessories, 6-8% off MacBook Pro, 8% off

Cinema Display and 12% off AppleCare for Mac, Apple TV, iPod Shuffle, iPod Nano and Cinema Display. Plus free engraving on all iPad and iPod and free shipping on all orders over £80.*

Visit the online CIPFA Apple store or to order by telephone, call Apple on **0800 072 4872** and quote EPP Parliament Hill.

Do you need Professional Indemnity Insurance?

The CIPFA Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) scheme is backed by a price promise: If you can find the same cover for less within 14 days, TRM will try their best to match the price and Parliament Hill will give you a cheque for £50*. Find out more.

Merlin – Top UK attractions

Treat yourself, friends or family to a fantastic day out with great savings from Merlin Entertainment. Discounts are available on popular attractions such as Thorpe Park, Alton Towers, The London Dungeons, LEGOLAND and many more*. View more information or alternatively call **0871 222 4001** and quote **REWARDS**.



Retired members meeting

At their most recent meeting, 25 retired members visited the Old Vic to learn about the history of the theatre and visit the Foundation Stone, Stage Door, auditorium, orchestra pit and lounge bar. The next meeting is on Friday 10 October at Robert Street when Tony Redmond will discuss the role of the ombudsman.

Regions

Minister presents CIPFA awards in Belfast

Northern Ireland Employment and Learning Minister Dr Stephen Farry MLA provided an excellent opening address to the delegates attending the CIPFA Northern Ireland Awards Ceremony and Branch Annual Lunch at Belfast Castle in May.

The awards ceremony recognises student success in all CIPFA qualifications and was attended by AAT, PQ and Accredited course students. The Minister said: 'CIPFA plays a key role in supporting government policy and promoting the best practice standards of corporate governance across the public sector.'

Steve Mungavin, Head of CIPFA NI, said: 'The support of CIPFA members was acknowledged at the AGM, especially from the out-going Chair, Jonathan Adams, and the local office looks forward to continuing to support members in NI during 2014.'



PQ students Laura McCullagh (right) and Lynsey Gardiner (left) pictured with former CIPFA President Jaki Salisbury, Stephen Farry MLA and Steve Mungavin, Head of CIPFA NI

Paul Treadaway – life as a CIPFA volunteer

After 40 years as a CIPFA volunteer, Paul Treadaway stood down from the South East Regional Council at the most recent AGM.

He joined the Students Society Executive in 1973 and became President in 1991, until the merger with the Regional Council in 1992.

Paul served with a number of committees, panels and working groups over the years with the region and was elected Chairman in 2005/2006. He was the lead organiser for the CIPFA Regional Conference in London in 2005 and was delighted to be honoured with the Dr Hedley Marshall CBE Memorial Award in 2008.

A member of the AAT since its inception in 1980, Paul was made President in 1986/1987, an event which in many ways changed his life.

Paul was admitted as an Honorary Member of the Institute in 2001 and believed that this enabled him to help forge a bond, which is still growing, between AAT and CIPFA because he had a foot in both camps.

'I have worked with some superb colleagues and made many friends. After all, you don't volunteer for 40 years if you don't like the people you work with.'



Paul Treadaway receiving the Dr Hedley Marshall CBE Award in 2008 from the President of CIPFA at the time, Caroline Mawhood

CIPFA South East Summer School 2014 – reasons to be cheerful

Plans for the 57th CIPFA South East summer conference are in full swing for the two-night event from 24-26 September 2014.

The theme this year is 'reasons to be cheerful', exploring and celebrating success in challenging times, at beautiful Knuston Hall on the Beds/Northants border.

The conference kicks off on Wednesday afternoon with networking activities and a session on soft skills. The core day of learning on Thursday 25 September will have speaker sessions on local

government, integrated care and the Better Care Fund, and emotional intelligence. Delegates can attend Thursday as a one-day event at a cost of just £50 (£25 concessions). Friday will include a speaker on governance, some group work and an address by the President and Chief Executive of CIPFA.

For details, prices and to book online visit the [CIPFA events webpage](#). For any booking that includes overnight accommodation or attendance at the evening sessions, please email summer.conference@cipfasoutheast.org.uk



Knuston Hall will host the CIPFA South East summer school

Midlands sixth-formers run council for a day

Sixth-form students from across the Midlands met at universities in Staffordshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Birmingham in June and July to take part in a management team game working for a fictional council of Lyecheater.

The sixth-form games were created by CIPFA in the Midlands to encourage young people to work in the public sector. The student management teams faced scenarios such as a visit from their local MP, an angry Trade Union Official and a press enquiry while balancing the council's budget, making significant cuts and providing services.

The winning schools were Moorlands Sixth Form Centre in Cheadle, Bishop Walsh School in Sutton Coldfield, Bourne Grammar School, Countesthorpe Community College, Tudor Grange Academy in Redditch and Trinity School in Nottingham.

Chris Gill who led the events said: 'This CIPFA management game is a brilliant opportunity for students to understand the way our public finances are managed and the difficulties our finance teams have in choosing between competing and often equally important priorities.'



Nottinghamshire sixth-formers get to work running Lyecheater

CIPFA Cymru Wales branch recruiting mentors and champions

As part of the CIPFA Cymru Wales executive strategy, the Welsh branch is currently recruiting volunteers to its two new programmes.

Our mentoring programme will provide CIPFA members and students with career and development support from CIPFA

qualified mentors, giving members access to fresh insight into the profession and will provide the opportunity to expand networks. We are looking for individuals who will be willing to invest some time in becoming a mentor and the branch will be providing training to facilitate this role.

Our champion programme aims to drive the branch presence more locally in Wales. We are looking for volunteers to be local champions to promote CIPFA events and information. For further information or to volunteer for either programmes please contact E: chris.tidswell@cipfa.org.

Students

CIPFA Student Conference 2014

The CIPFA Student Conference 2014 on 2 July proved a great success for students looking to gain expert industry insight, skills and tips and the chance to network.

After hearing the main conference speeches, students then moved on to their own tailored event with a session on transformational skills. This looked at how CIPFA students could enhance their leadership and management skills by finding radical solutions to meet the demands and challenges of a fast-paced work environment. Other sessions on volunteering, clarity and impact, and status and impact of the non-verbal provided real work skills and the opportunity to make a difference both personally and professionally.

Finally, students heard from Mike Owen, President of CIPFA and Rob Whiteman, CEO of CIPFA about the overall objectives of CIPFA, the future of finance careers and their options for varied, exciting careers which could make a real impact on society.



CETC tutor Helen Brain receiving the Excellence in Education award from Mike Owen

June PQ exam results

Students have achieved another strong set of results in the 2014 CIPFA Professional Qualification examinations.

This year's results saw a small a small decrease in the pass rate for students with the overall pass rate dipping to 72% in 2014 from 73% in 2013.

CIPFA Education and Membership Director Adrian Pulham said: 'It is a pleasure to be able to congratulate CIPFA students yet again on achieving another impressive set of exam results.

'The qualifications they have gained will give them a great foundation to their careers as they work to manage the

finances of public sector bodies across the world.'

Further details on the [June 2014 results](#) can be found online.

PQ Audit and Assurance syllabus changes for Dec 2014

A number of changes have been made to the Audit and Assurance (AA) syllabus, and these changes will apply to candidates sitting the December 2014 exam. The main additional or amended content is available in the [new AA syllabus document](#) or you can access summary of changes from the [student news online](#).

December 2014 exam bookings

You are now able to [book your exams online](#). Please remember to book your exams before **30 September** 1700 UK time!



Strategic Financial Management (case study) changes for 2014

As a result of changes to the Management Accounting syllabus, some statistical techniques are no longer examinable within Strategic Financial Management (ie from the November 2014 exam). You can read a summary of the changes on the [student news online](#).

New formulae sheet and statistical tables

Following the changes to the examinable statistical techniques in 2014 syllabus, new shorter formulae sheet and statistical tables have now been [published online](#).

Use of accounting ratios in FR and PSFR

Both Financial Reporting and Public Sector Financial Reporting exam papers will continue to list some accounting ratios as per [2014 Assessment Strategy](#) as a guide for the candidates. These are not meant to restrict the options in the examinations; other ratios can be calculated.

Exam stationery

Following changes to the structure of exams and a successful pilot in June 2014, we will no longer provide graph paper or analysis paper for the examinations unless specifically required by any examination questions. Only CIPFA lined paper will be provided by default.

For examinations containing multiple choice questions, special answer sheets will be provided. These require the use of **black pen** and specific annotations – [full instructions are available online](#).

Public Audit Qualification

As you may recall, some months ago CIPFA committed to submit a shadow application to the Financial Reporting Council (FRC) for Registered Qualifying Body (RQB) status as a result of the Local Audit & Accountability Act 2014 which has changed local audit arrangements in England.

We submitted this shadow application based around a new Public Audit Qualification (PAQ) earlier this year. We are expecting the Regulations formalising the oversight powers of FRC as well as details of the RQB requirements to be laid by the House for the Act in July.

Look out for further news on the PAQ!

CIPFA Student Network

The purpose of the CIPFA Student Network is to give students globally a voice through local, national, and global events, including the annual student conference, which is free for all to attend. [Read more online](#).

We are looking for CIPFA ambassadors who are passionate about promoting the student agenda and want to shape the future strategy of CIPFA.

Contact us at csn@cipfa.org



Events

Conferences

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE FOR THE FINANCE PROFESSION

16 September, London

www.cipfa.org/events/c/central-government-finance-professional-conference-london-20140916

CIPFA PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACT AUDIT UPDATE

17 September, Birmingham

www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-procurement-and-contact-audit-update-20140917

CIPFA INSURANCE SUMMIT

25 September, London

www.cipfa.org/events/i/insurance-summit-shaping-public-sector-insurance-for-the-future-20140925

CIPFA NATIONAL HOUSING CONFERENCE

26 September, London

www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-national-housing-conference-social-housing-is-big-business-20140926

SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH CONFERENCE

30 September, London

www.cipfa.org/events/s/social-care-and-health-conference-20140930

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE FOR THE FINANCE PROFESSION

2 October, Leeds

www.cipfa.org/events/c/central-government-finance-professional-conference-leeds-20141002

FOURTH ANNUAL CIPFA ACADEMIES CONFERENCE

9 October, London

www.cipfa.org/events/t/the-4th-annual-cipfa-academies-conference-20141009

Accredited training

CIPS DIPLOMA IN PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

Starts 29 July, Cardiff

www.cipfa.org/events/d/diploma-in-procurement-and-supply-20130729

Starts 31 July, Edinburgh

www.cipfa.org/events/d/diploma-in-procurement-and-supply-20140731

CERTIFICATE IN CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Starts 20 August, Cardiff

www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-corporate-governance-20140820

Starts 22 August, Edinburgh

www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-corporate-governance-scotland-20140822

Starts 7 October, London

www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-corporate-governance-accredited-20141007

Starts 8 October, Belfast

www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-corporate-governance-20141008

CERTIFICATE IN INVESTIGATIVE PRACTICE

Starts 2 September, London

www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-of-investigative-practice-qualification-20140902

Starts 23 September, Edinburgh

www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-investigative-practice-20140923

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD IN COMMISSIONING PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING FOR CARE SERVICES

Starts 4 September, Edinburgh

www.cipfa.org/events/p/pda-commissioning-procurement-and-contracting-for-care-services-20140904

INSPIRING BOARDROOM LEADERSHIP

Starts 4 September, Belfast

www.cipfa.org/events/i/inspiring-boardroom-leadership-20140904

PRINCE2

Starts 21 July, Edinburgh

www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-foundation-and-practitioner-20140721

Starts 29 September, Cardiff

www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-foundation-and-practitioner-20140929

Starts 6 October, Edinburgh

www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-foundation-and-practitioner-20141006

PRINCE2 E-LEARNING

PRINCE2 e-learning: foundation level

PRINCE2 e-learning: practitioner level

PRINCE2 e-learning: foundation and practitioner level

CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC SECTOR PROCUREMENT

Starts 24 September, Belfast

www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-public-sector-procurement-20140924

CERTIFICATE IN CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

Starts 15 October, Edinburgh

www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-contract-management-20141015

Starts 17 October, Belfast

www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-contract-management-20141017

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY

Starts 18 September, London

www.cipfa.org/events/l/leadership-development-academy-autumn-2014-20140918

CIPFA OPEN BOOK PROCESSES

Starts 7 October, London

www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-open-book-processes--3-day-course-20141007

CIPFA FUTURE LEADERS ACADEMY

Starts 9 October, London

www.cipfa.org/events/f/future-leaders-academy-practitionerslevel-2-20141009

Regional events

Full details will be listed on the website as they become available: please check www.cipfa.org/events

CIPFA CONFERENCE FOR THE REGIONS 2014 – MEETING THE CHALLENGES
 3 October, University of Warwick
www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-conference-for-the-regions-2014-meeting-the-challenges-20141003

NORTHERN IRELAND

CIPFA NORTHERN IRELAND ANNUAL CONFERENCE
 25 September, Stormont Hotel, Belfast
www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-northern-ireland-annual-conference-2014-20140925

CIPFA NORTHERN IRELAND GOVERNANCE CONFERENCE
 19 November
www.cipfa.org/regions/northern-ireland/governance-seminar

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER

IIA PUBLIC SECTOR INTERNAL AUDIT STANDARDS
 31 July 2014, Leeds
www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-in-yorkshire-and-humber-and-iaa-public-sector-internal-audit-standards-20140731

CONTRACT GOVERNANCE
 17 September, Leeds – save the date

CAREER PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE
 20 August 2014, York
www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-in-yorkshire-and-humber-event-career-planning-for-the-future-20140820

MIDLANDS

CATS SEMINAR
 1 October and 8 October, Warwick
 – save the date

ANNUAL SEMINAR
 10 October, location TBC
 – save the date

NORTH EAST

CIPFA IN THE NORTH EAST ANNUAL CONFERENCE
 28 November, Gateshead – save the date

SOUTH EAST

CIPFA SOUTH EAST SUMMER SCHOOL
 25 September 2014, Wellingborough
www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa--in-the-south-east-summer-school-20140925

CIPFA SOUTH EAST ANNUAL REGIONAL DINNER
 21 November 2014, London – save the date

SOUTH WEST

CIPFA SOUTH WEST AUTUMN CONFERENCE
 21 November 2014, Taunton – save the date

